

people every day, are safe and effective. Animal research is of great importance to our future, but there is growing evidence that, in some instances, research is being carried out using family pets that have been fraudulently obtained from the owners who love them.

The concern that has prompted me to introduce the Pet Safety and Protection Act of 1996 does not relate to whether animals should or should not be used in medical research. Rather, this bill provides a sensible solution to the growing problem of stray and stolen pets being sold to research facilities. It addresses problems caused by unethical Class B "random source" animal dealers. The Pet Safety and Protection Act of 1996 will safeguard family pets while allowing essential research to continue in an environment free from deception and abuse.

According to the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [APHIS], there are 4,325 licensed animal dealers in the United States. About 1,100 of these dealers are licensed by APHIS as Class B "random source" animal dealers. This means that these dealers do not breed the animals themselves, but obtain their dogs and cats from other sources.

Unfortunately, there is significant evidence to conclude that many Class B "random source" dealers are profiteering through theft or by deceptively acquiring animals. For example, in 1995, 50 class B dealers supplied 24,000 of the 89,000 dogs used for research. APHIS investigations of these dealers found that up to 50 percent engaged in fraudulent record-keeping practices. In other words, up to 11,000 of the dogs sold to medical facilities in 1995 may have been obtained through pet theft, falsified records, and other unscrupulous techniques.

The provisions of current law are impossible to enforce effectively. In response to evidence of repeated violations of Federal law by Class B "random source" dealers, I have introduced the Pet Safety and Protection Act of 1996. This legislation will ensure that dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained from legitimate sources.

The problem of pet theft should not be left unchecked. Dr. Robert Whitney, former director of the Office of Animal Care and Use at the National Institutes of Health recently declared that, "The continued existence of these virtually unregulatable Class B dealers erodes the public confidence in our commitment to appropriate procurement, care, and use of animals in the important research to better the health of both humans and animals." it is in the interests of consumers, pet owners, and researchers alike, to see that animals used for research purposes are obtained legitimately and treated with respect.

I urge all of my colleagues to join in supporting this legislation.●

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 2116. A bill to facilitate efficient investments and financing of infrastructure projects and new job creation through the establishment of a National Infrastructure Development Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1996

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce legislation today that I hope, at the very least, will draw attention to the interesting possibilities of how private capital might be joined with public funding of our Nation's infrastructure. The bill is designed to facilitate investment in, and the financing of, infrastructure projects—which generate good-paying jobs—through the creation of a self-sustaining entity, the National Infrastructure Development Corporation.

In 1991, I sponsored the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act [ISTEA]. One provision called for the establishment of an Infrastructure Investment Commission. Public investments in infrastructure have been declining, and so the Commission was charged with looking at ways to encourage the investment of private capital. The Commission was chaired by Daniel V. Flanagan, Jr. Under his able direction, the Commission released a report early in 1993. I found it truly compelling, and I look forward to revisiting the Commission's recommendations as we prepare for ISTEA II. In short, we would do well to listen to Mr. Flanagan, again, as we reauthorize our vitally important transportation infrastructure policies in the 105th Congress. There will be hearings, of course, and we look forward to testimony from the Commission as to its recommendations. I would like to point out that our colleague, Senator HUTCHISON from Texas, served as a member of the Commission; and I certainly look forward to working with her as the Environment and Public Works Committee takes up this most important matter next year.

I would like to note that significant infrastructure investment activity by U.S. pension funds is occurring daily overseas, particularly in Asia and Latin America. A good part of this has been prompted by the evolution of the independent power generation spawned by the action of our Congress in creating such entities as part of the Energy Policy Act of 1992. As a result, we now have a project finance industry in existence in this country assisting those American funds in such infrastructure investment overseas. Also, current policies of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the Export Import Bank, and the World Bank, encourage this type of overseas investment through credit enhancements, political risk insurance, and so forth.

The problem in the United States is that we have never provided such credit enhancement disciplines in our own infrastructure network. Clearly, there is significant political risk for the en-

trepreneur, the architect, the engineer, and even the community group that seeks to develop improvements and novel and innovative ways of paying for such services. The Commission's report suggests a "growing of the pie" approach to leverage some of our public funds by encouraging such private investment, and suggests that leverage ratios of approximately 10 to 18 times the public funds involved are attainable.

Recommendations of the Commission and Mr. Flanagan, who has testified several times before Congress on this subject, are incorporated in this legislation. For example, it suggests various insurance initiatives, particularly in the area of development risk, as well as other innovative procedures, including the reinsurance of long term revenue streams that would allow new economic activity to ensure either in the construction of new or rehabilitation of existing facilities.

I commend my colleagues in the House of Representatives, particularly the Democratic leadership there, for introducing this measure in that body earlier this year. To me this is a bipartisan effort and we welcome the support of our Republican colleagues. This legislation, the National Infrastructure Development Act of 1996, is by no means the final word on this subject. But I do recommend it to all of my colleagues for their examination and hope it proves sufficient to stimulate their interest in this ingenious approach to such an exciting matter.

SENATE RESOLUTION 296—RELATIVE TO DISABLED SENATE EMPLOYEES

Mr. FORD submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 296

*Resolved*, That (a) a Senate employee with a disability (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)) who has the privilege of the Senate floor under rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate may bring such supporting services (including dog guides and interpreters) on the Senate floor as the employing office determines are necessary to assist the disabled employee in discharging the official duties of his or her employment position.

(b) The employing office of a disabled employee shall administer the provisions of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 297—REFERRING S. 558

Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 297

*Resolved*, That the bill S. 558 entitled "A Bill for the relief of Retired Sergeant First Class James D. Benoit, Wan Sook Benoit, and the estate of David Benoit, and for other purposes," is referred, with all accompanying papers, to the chief judge of the United